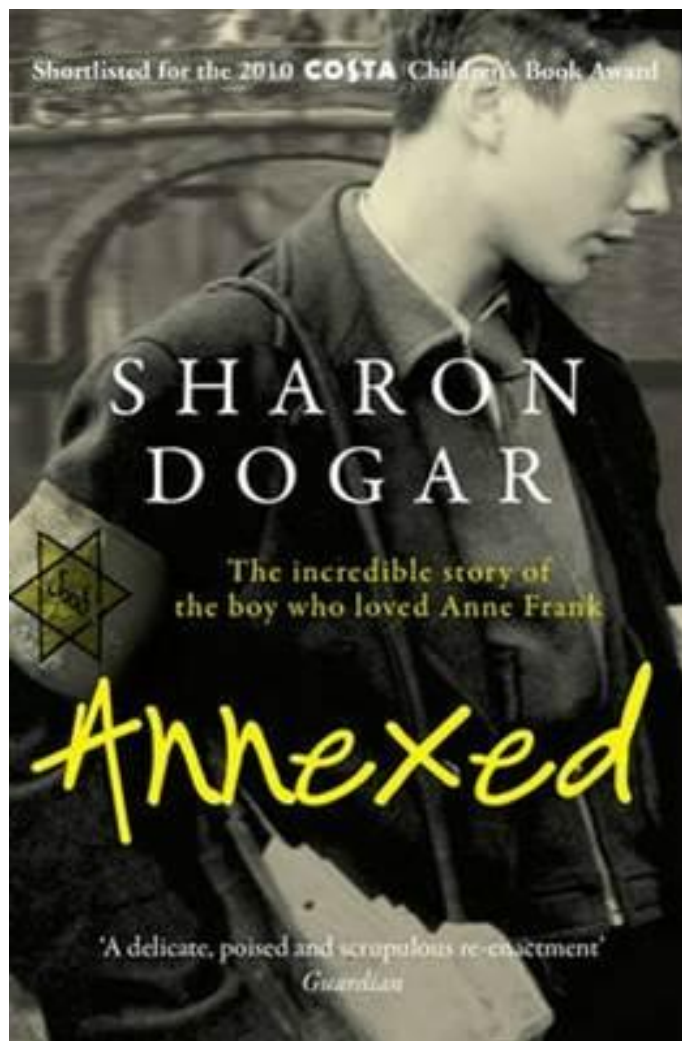


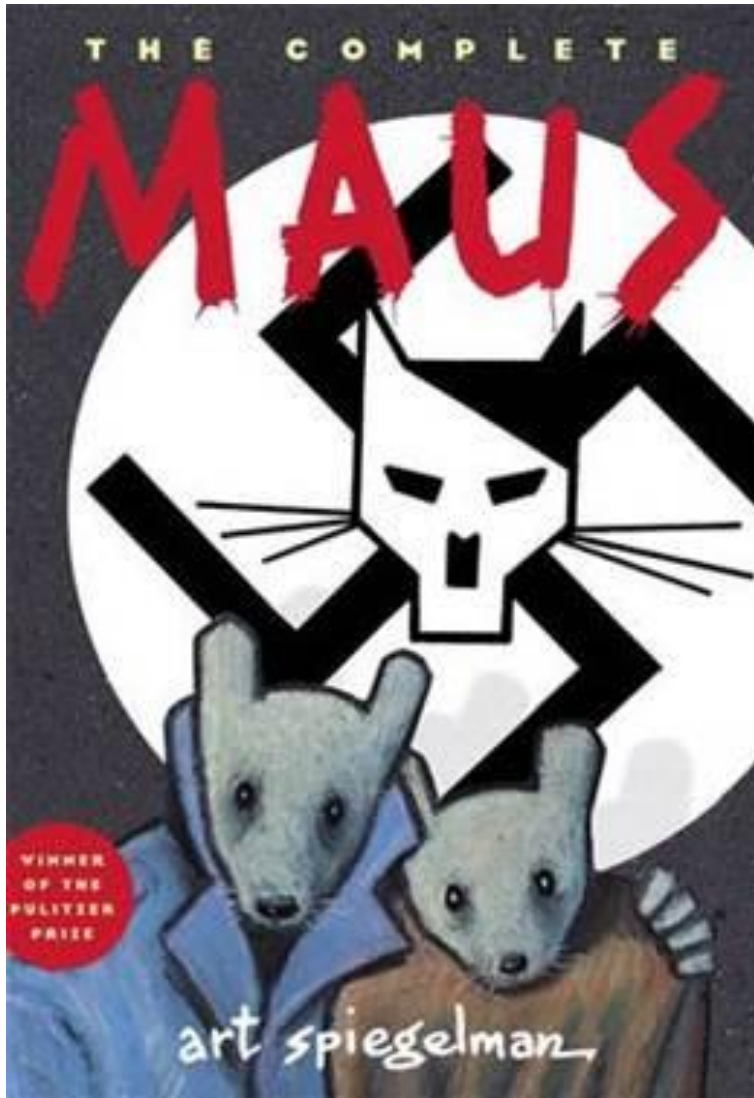
# Holocaust Memorial Day

## Recommended Reading

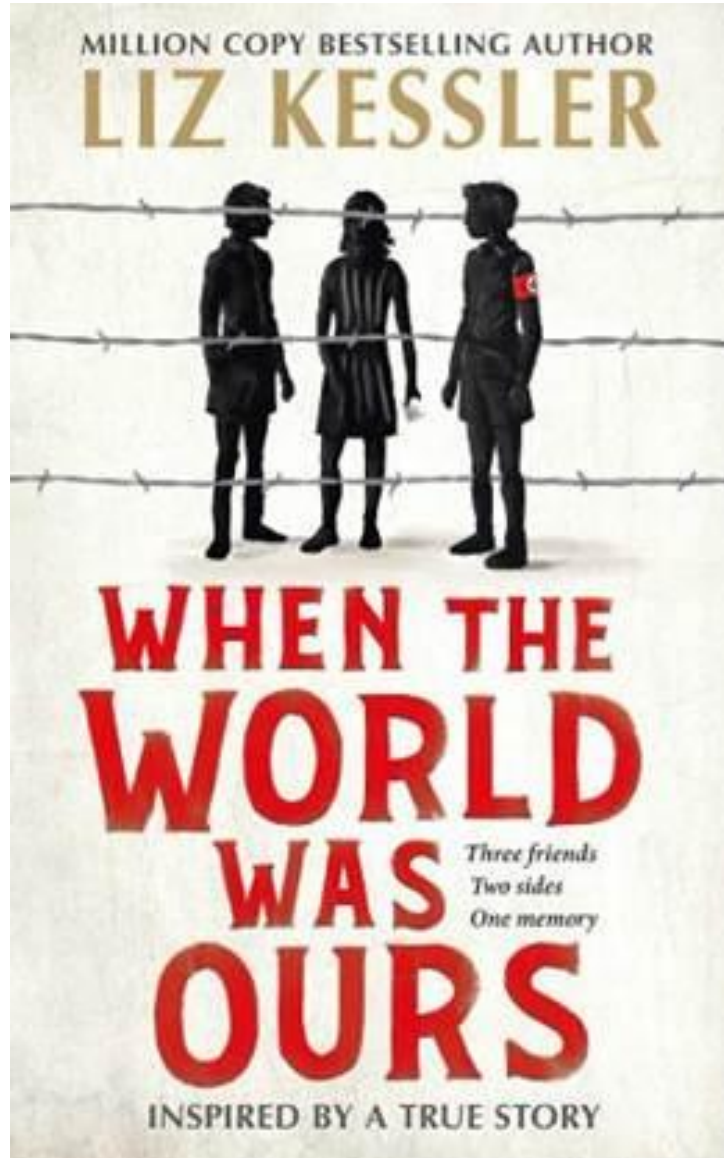


Even if - somehow - you'd never heard of Anne Frank and her diary, this fictionalised account of Peter (a teenage Dutch Jew, hiding from the Nazis with his family and their friends, the Franks, in a tiny annex) would make an impact.

Constantly afraid, living silently, secretively, tormented by the tension between 'outside' and 'inside' and by terrible dreams, the threat of discovery constantly hovers.



By addressing the horror of the Holocaust through cartoons, the author captures the everyday reality of fear and is able to explore the guilt, relief and extraordinary sensation of survival – and how the children of survivors are in their own way affected by the trials of their parents.



Elsa, Max and Leo are firm friends and live in Vienna. They love playing tag in the park, swimming and doing all the normal kid things. Yet, over time, Max's dad decides that "people like" Leo and Elsa's parents are the reason for him losing his job and having no money... and it seems that a lot of people agree with him. In fact, Elsa's parents decide in 1937 that it's too dangerous for them to live in Vienna anymore, and move to Czechoslovakia.

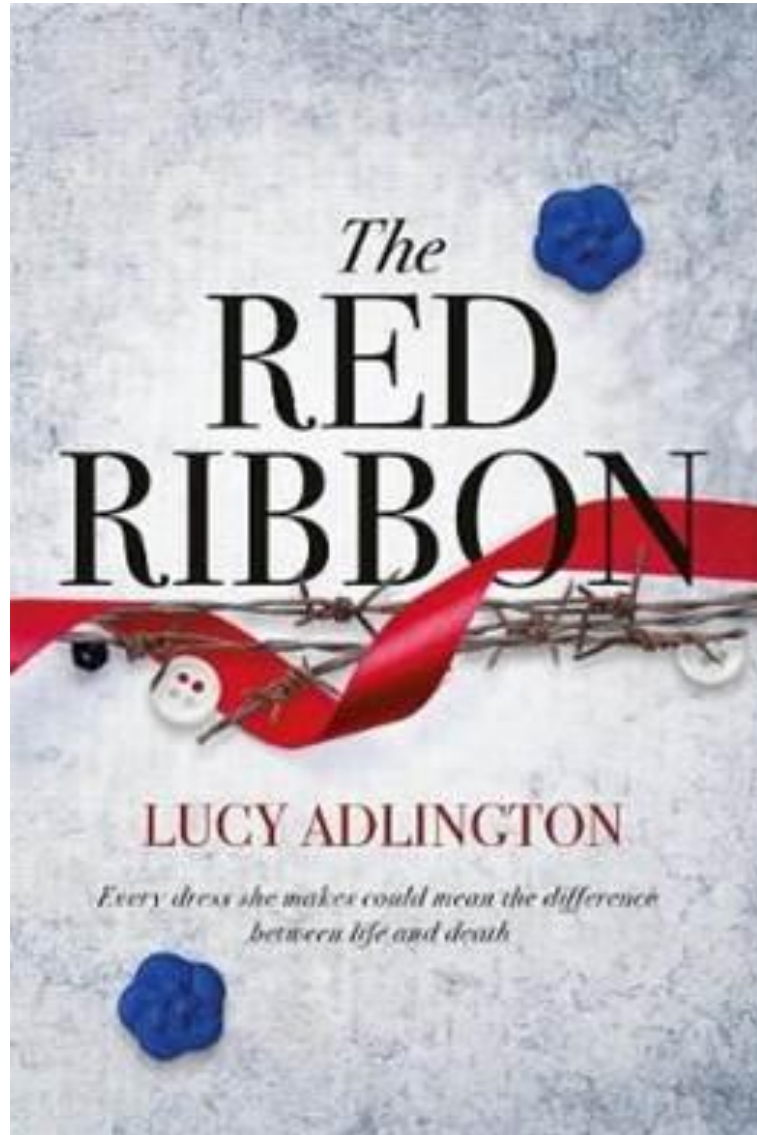
In 1938, Max's father gets promoted to being an SS Officer in Herr Hitler's new Germany, and the family move to Munich. Joining the German Youth movement and attending a different kind of school, Max starts to feel part of something and no longer left out on the sidelines. His activities give him a sense of pride, except for when his teachers say horrible things about Jews. Shortly after, Hitler takes Czechoslovakia. Leo's family search desperately for a way out of Germany, but opportunities for Jews to leave are very few.

As the holocaust goes on, Max and Elsa find themselves brought to the same concentration camp, yet on opposing sides. As the story leads to its terrible conclusion, will friendship ever be enough to bridge the gap that has widened between them?

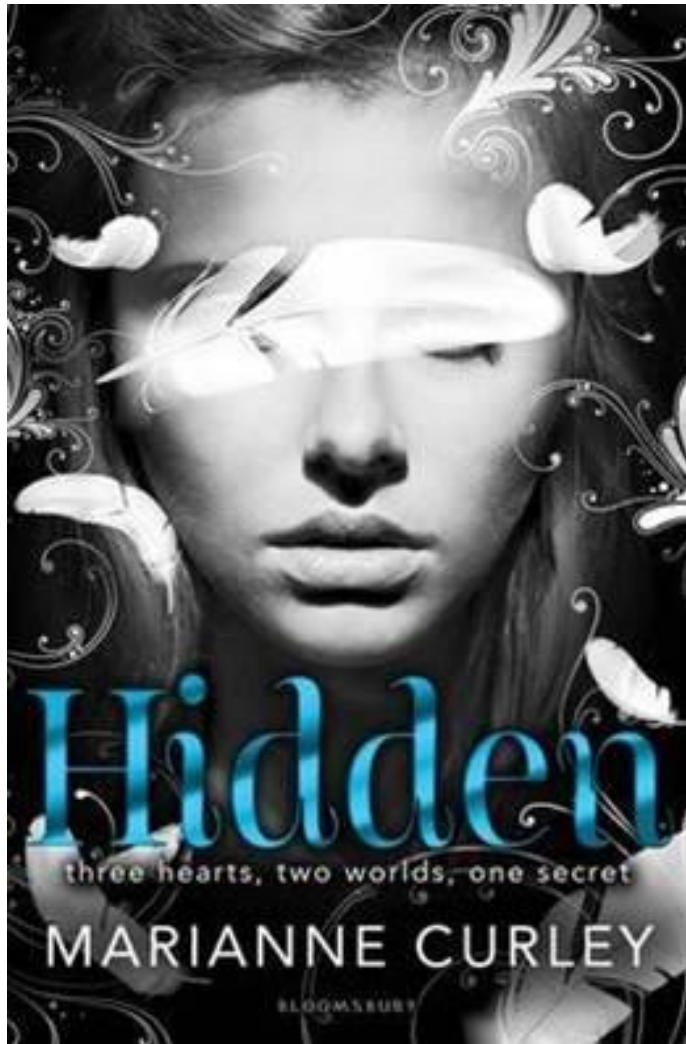


t's 1942. Lili Petalo is a trapeze artist in her family's circus. Max Hartmann is a member of the Hitler Youth, about to be recruited into the German Army. But Lili's family are Roma, which means that she, along with Jews, Sinti and many other groups are being persecuted by the Nazis - and, worse - sent to concentration camps. Lili and Max's love is forbidden, and the war will tear them apart.

Called "the forgotten holocaust" by Angela Merkel, the persecution of close to a million Roma and Sinti people is one we hear little about in the context of World War Two. Though Matthias' novel is a work of fiction, it does very much feel like a story that might have really occurred between two young people who had the misfortune of falling in love during such an unimaginably tragic and savage time.



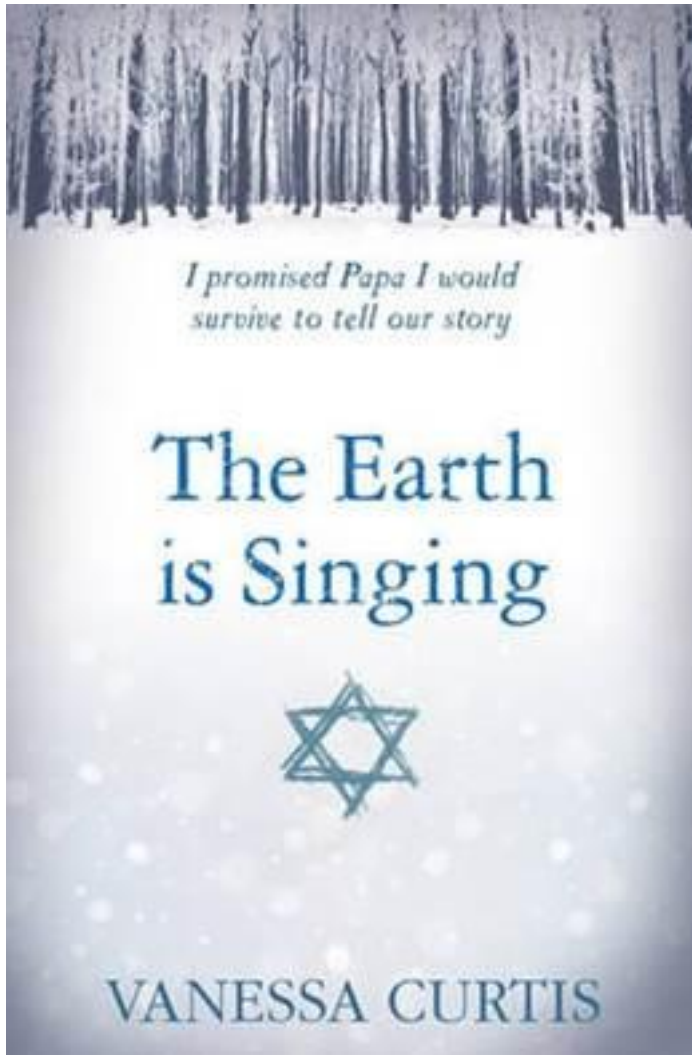
Ella is a 14-year-old girl who is obsessed by fashion and making beautiful dresses. We meet her on the first day of her first job as a seamstress. At first, the story feels like a dystopia set in some harsh future. And then the penny drops. Ella's 'Birchwood' is the Nazi concentration camp known as Auschwitz-Birkenau and the year is 1944. It's Ella's job in the camp, where everyone must either work or be killed, to make beautiful clothes for the wives of Nazi officers and female guards.



Climbing out of a bedroom window may seem a little extreme, but Ebony's parents have always been rather over-protective so it's the only way she can enjoy a night out at a club with the rest of her friends.

But a violent incident that threatens to spoil her evening has consequences more disturbing and frightening than she could ever imagine. Soon her family, home and the fabric of her life are threatened, and she realises that her parents were not simply protecting her, but hiding her.

This intricately-plotted supernatural thriller reveals its mysteries very gradually. Packed full of suspense and anticipation, it will keep readers on the edge of their seats.



By the middle of 1941, fifteen-year-old Hanna Michelson's life has changed beyond recognition.

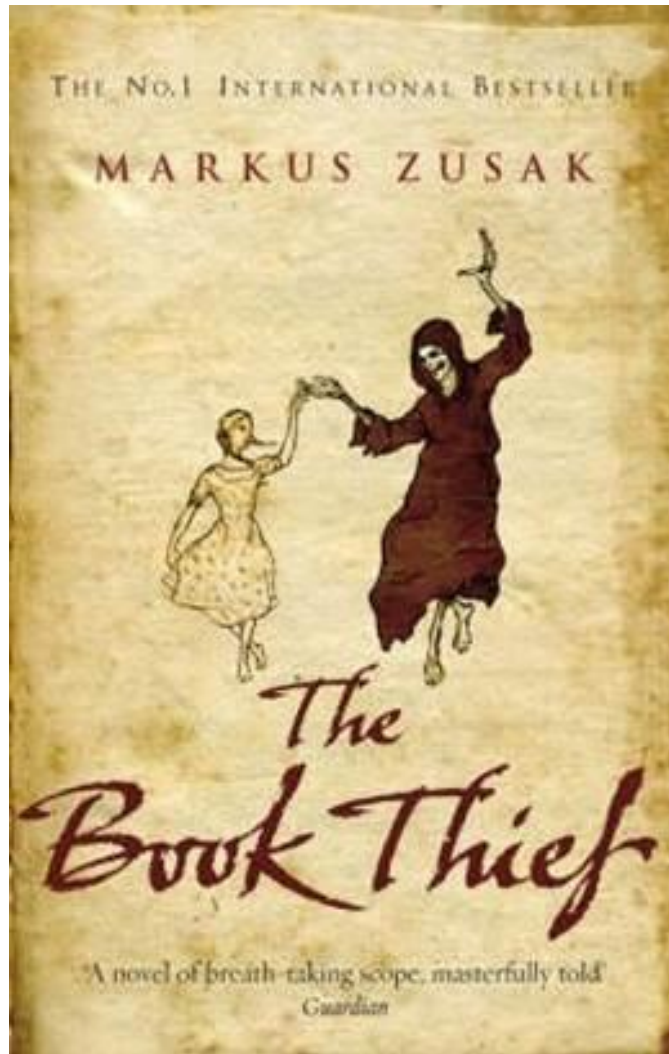
First the Russians came and took away her beloved father, her language and the beautiful house she had grown up in. And then the Nazis arrived and took away everything else.

Because Hanna is a Jew, her family, her possessions, her home, her dignity and ultimately her life must be forfeit to the Nazi ideology that has invaded her country. But Hanna promised her Papa she would survive to tell their story.

Based on true events, this first-person narrative tells the story of the Jews of Riga during World War II. Engaging, harrowing and thought-provoking, this is a story that should not be forgotten.

Contains graphic descriptions of mass murder and cruelty. Not suitable for younger readers.



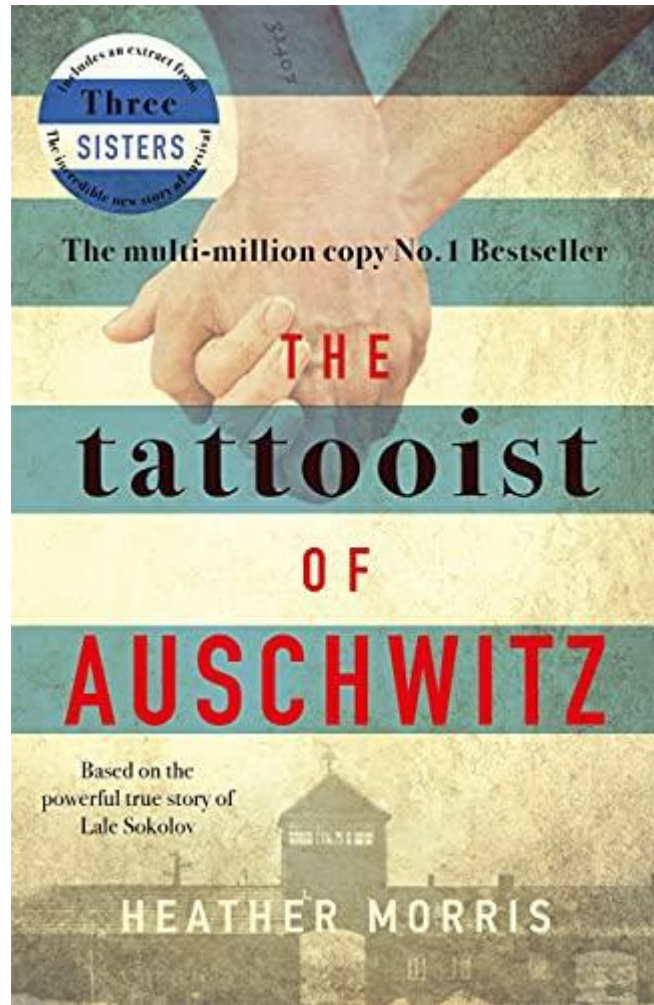


HERE IS A SMALL FACT - YOU ARE GOING TO DIE.

1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier. Liesel, a nine-year-old girl, is living with a foster family on Himmel Street. Her parents have been taken away to a concentration camp. Liesel steals books. This is her story and the story of the inhabitants of her street when the bombs begin to fall.

SOME IMPORTANT INFORMATION - THIS NOVEL IS NARRATED BY DEATH.

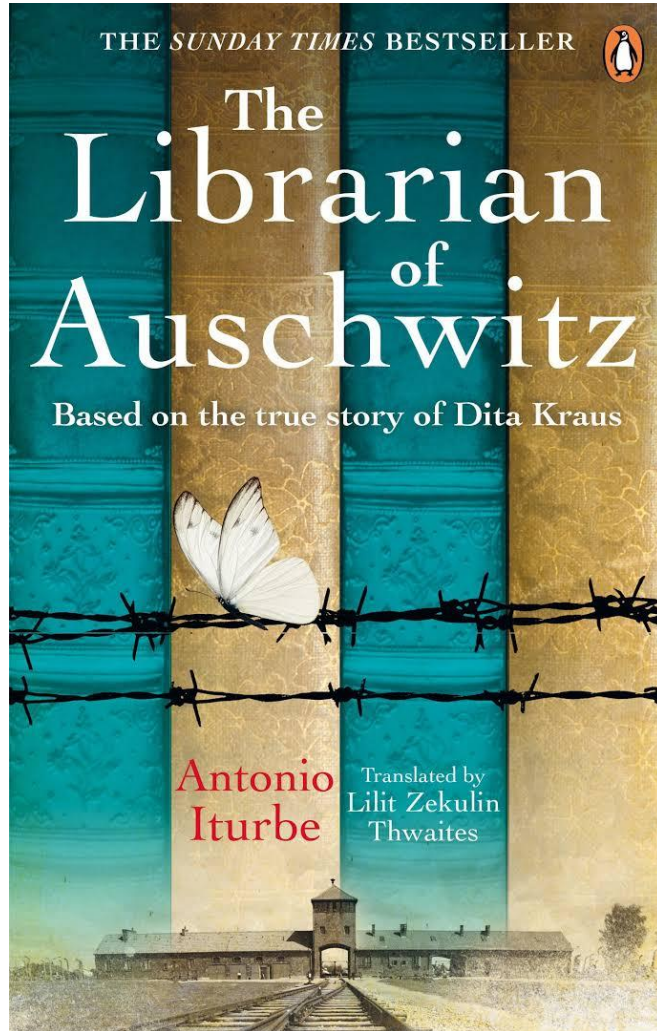
It's a small story, about: a girl, an accordionist, some fanatical Germans, a Jewish fist fighter, and quite a lot of thievery.



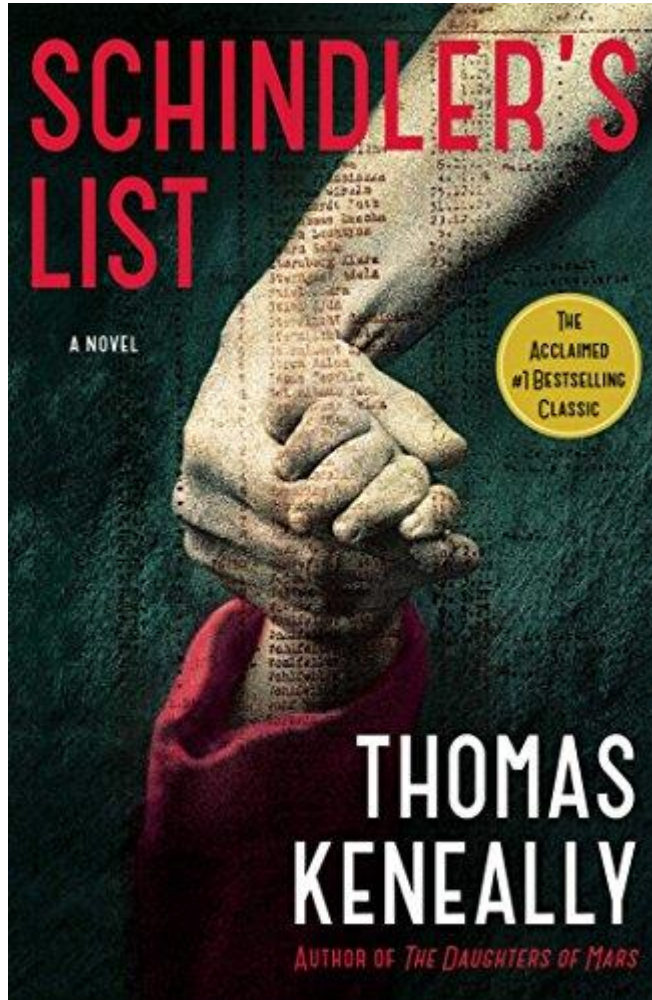
In 1942, Lale Sokolov arrived in Auschwitz-Birkenau. He was given the job of tattooing the prisoners marked for survival - scratching numbers into his fellow victims' arms in indelible ink to create what would become one of the most potent symbols of the Holocaust.

Waiting in line to be tattooed, terrified and shaking, was a young girl. For Lale - a dandy, a jack-the-lad, a bit of a chancer - it was love at first sight. And he was determined not only to survive himself, but to ensure this woman, Gita, did, too.

So begins one of the most life-affirming, courageous, unforgettable and human stories of the Holocaust: the love story of the tattooist of Auschwitz.

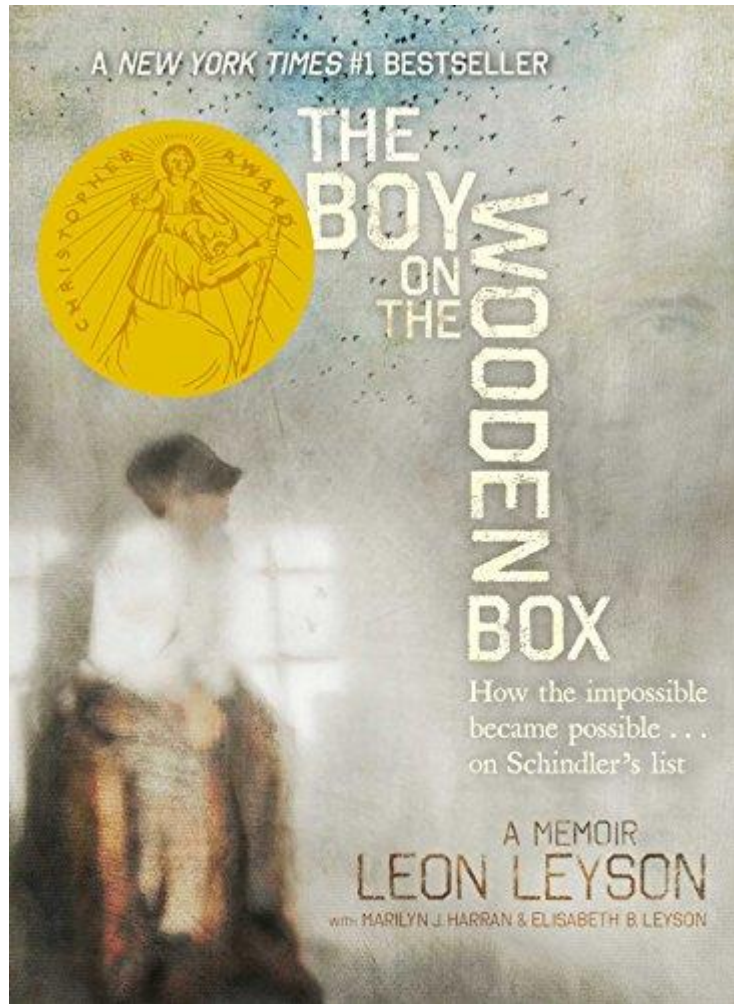


The Librarian of Auschwitz is a young adult fiction novel based on the true story of Dita Kraus, who was only 13 years of age when she and her parents were sent to the Terezin ghetto, and then to the only "family camp" of the Auschwitz-Birkenau extermination camp in Poland during the Nazi invasion.



Recommended for 15+

In the shadow of Auschwitz, a flamboyant German industrialist grew into a living legend to the Jews of Cracow. He was a womaniser, a heavy drinker and a bon viveur, but to them he became a saviour. This is the extraordinary story of Oskar Schindler, who risked his life to protect Jews in Nazi-occupied Poland and who was transformed by the war into a man with a mission, a compassionate angel of mercy.



Leon Leyson (born Leib Lezjon) was only ten years old when the Nazis invaded Poland and his family was forced to relocate to the Krakow ghetto. With incredible luck, perseverance and grit, Leyson was able to survive the sadism of the Nazis, including that of the demonic Amon Goeth, commandant of Plaszow, the concentration camp outside Krakow.

Ultimately, it was the generosity and cunning of one man, a man named Oskar Schindler, who saved Leon Leyson's life, and the lives of his mother, his father, and two of his four siblings, by adding their names to his list of workers in his factory - a list that became world renowned: Schindler's List.